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EDUCATION (IRELAND),
1916.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION
IN
IRELAND.
FOR THE YEAR 1916.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND

FOR THE YEAR

1916.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY IVOR CHURCHILL, BARON WIMBORNE,
LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We the Commissioners of Education in Ireland beg to submit the following General Report of our proceedings during the year 1916.

No change has to be recorded in the constitution of the Commission. The names of the Commissioners and of the members of the Standing Committee are given on page 13. Four Board Meetings and fifteen Standing Committee Meetings were held during the year, the attendances at which are also given on page 13. At the Board Meeting of January 19, 1916, we elected Sir James H. Stronge, Bart., D.L., to be our Chairman, and Very Rev. Dean Byrne, P.P., V.G., to be our Vice-Chairman for the year.

At the request of the Irish Government we agreed to surrender our Offices at 6 Grafton Street, Dublin, and to accept, conditionally, in lieu thereof Offices at 14 and 15 Castle Street, Dublin, provided by the Board of Works. The new accommodation is not so suitable or convenient as the old, but the change was effected in the interests of economy, and will result in a saving of £60 per annum on our Vote.

On pp. 6-9 we give Summaries of our Accounts which have been certified as correct by the Auditor of the Local Government Board.

Our total income, including the balance brought forward from the previous year, was £8,114 4s. 5d., and our expenditure £6,618 10s. 4d., leaving a balance of £1,495 14s. 1d. available for the current year. As compared with the previous year, income shows a decrease of £442 16s. 2d., and expenditure an increase of £25 12s. 3d. With regard to the decrease, all the sources of income show a reduction. Rents are reduced by £82 16s. 4d., Dividends (including Interest in lieu of Rent) by £202 1s. 0d., and Miscellaneous Receipts by £157 18s. 10d. In connection with the last-named item it should be stated that in 1915 Miscellaneous Receipts included the repayment of a sum of £158 18s. 2d. in respect of an old debt on the Cappakoughlin estate. The extra expenditure is accounted for by increased grants for educational purposes.

The pension for retired masters' annuities was reduced during the year from £346 6s. 10d. to £255 13s. 4d. owing to the death of the following:—Mr. T. C. Gambier, Dungannon Endowment; Mr. W. J. Valentine, Enniskillen Endowment, and Doctor P. King Joyce, Banagher Endowment.

The following Tables give a summary of income and expenditure:—

Income.

ACCOUNT,	Income—1916.			Net Credit Balance, January 1, 1916.	Total.
	Rents.	Dividends.	Manukamun.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ulster Royal School Endowments.	2,082 15 5	2,232 11 0	80 9 2	1,439 4 1	5,834 19 8
Ulster Royal School "Building Funds," etc.	—	107 8 10	4 0 0	81 12 1	193 0 11
Other Endowments ...	212 11 9	1,387 8 1	49 13 2	436 10 10	2,086 3 10
Total ...	2,295 7 2	3,727 7 11	134 2 4	1,957 7 0	8,114 4 5

Expenditure.

ACCOUNT	Expenditure—1916			Net Credit Balance, December 31, 1916.	Total.
	Salis, Rates, and other outgoings.	Payment of Endowed Masters' Annuities.	Distribution for Educational Purposes.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ulster Royal School Endowments.	545 10 6	255 13 4	4,051 0 0	982 15 10	5,834 19 8
Ulster Royal School "Building Funds," etc.	—	—	136 12 11	56 8 0	193 0 11
Other Endowments	166 8 11	—	1,463 4 8	456 10 3	2,086 3 10
Total ...	711 19 5	255 13 4	5,650 17 7	1,495 14 1	8,114 4 5

Capital.—Our capital account has undergone no change during the year, but for the purposes of the War we have loaned to the Government, under Treasury Scheme, a sum of £498 16s. 2d. Dominion of Canada 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, which during the period of the loan will bear extra interest at the rate of one-half of one per cent.

ULSTER ROYAL SCHOOL ENDOWMENTS

General. We believe that, on the whole, the Schools sharing in these endowments continue to be efficiently conducted. The number of "Selected" Schools is now eleven, one, which during the period of its selection had never fulfilled the prescribed conditions, having ceased to exist. The returns dealing with the Schools, their rolls, educational results, and the condition of the School premises are, speaking generally, of a satisfactory character. For particulars on these points we would refer to the report of our Secretary, who, as Lord Lieutenant's Inspector, visited the various Schools in September, 1916. This report will be found on pp. 10-12.

The participation by girls in the benefits of the endowments is increasing as is proved by the fact that they are now admitted to Cavan Royal School, and that a girls' department of Enniskillen Royal School has recently been opened at the town of Enniskillen.

Numbers. The total number of pupils on the rolls for the year 1915-16 was 714 as compared with 686 in the previous year. The latter number showed a gain of 39 on the returns for 1913-14, so that in the two years 1914-16 a gain of 67

has been registered. This is satisfactory, and it is to be borne in mind that in arriving at this result the new department at Enniskillen, alluded to in the preceding paragraph, has not been taken into account.

The number of pupils presented for the Intermediate Examinations in 1916 was 411 out of a possible 455, or 90 per cent. of the Intermediate Roll. This compares favourably with the 84 per cent. of 1915, and is one of the highest in the history of the "Selected" Schools.

Efficiency. Tested by the Intermediate Examinations, the efficiency of the Schools, taken as a whole, is creditable. Out of 411 presented for examination 247 were successful, that is, the percentage of Passes is 60, as against a general percentage for the whole country of 57.6. In 1915 the percentage of Passes was 69 for our special Schools and 62 for Irish Intermediate Schools generally. In comparing those results it should be remembered that the number presented for examination from the Selected Schools was much more exhaustive in 1916 than in 1915.

School Premises. The necessary maintenance work was discharged during the year, and the condition of the various School buildings is satisfactory. Cavan Royal School, which was unfavourably commented on last year, has received attention, and the portion of the buildings required for School purposes is now in good repair.

Qualified Schools. We are satisfied that the eleven Schools selected by the Local Boards of Education qualified under the Scheme, and we accepted as evidence of this qualification the certificate of the Lord Lieutenant's Inspector given on p. 12.

Local Boards. In accordance with Section 48 of the Scheme we received reports from the various Local Boards of Education as to their proceedings during the School year 1915-16. These reports are generally of a satisfactory character.

OTHER ENDOWMENTS.

Preston Endowment. The gross income of this endowment was £903 17s. 4d. as compared with £1,154 17s. 3d. for the previous year, the principal cause of the variation being the receipt in the year 1915 of a payment in respect of an old debt on the Cappaloughlin estate. After payment of the necessary outgoings, the following allocations were made to the Governing Bodies of the three Schools named:—King's Hospital, Oxmantown, £158 13s. 9d.; Preston School, Navan, £416 2s. 6d.; and Preston School, Abbeylisc, £299 18s. 6d.

Preston School, Navan. The roll has fallen from 17 to 15—8 boys and 7 girls. The number in average attendance was 13. Of 3 pupils presented for the Intermediate Examinations none passed. The Lord Lieutenant's Inspector reports:—"The Preston School is making satisfactory progress under the new teachers appointed on May 1, 1916. I visited the School on January 7, 1917, and remarked that the School work was being conducted with order and diligence."

Preston School, Abbeylisc. The returns show a roll of 15, of whom 6 were boarders. The previous roll numbered 20. Of 6 pupils in the junior grade class, 2 were presented for examination and both passed. The report of the Lord Lieutenant's Inspector on the general condition of the School is satisfactory, but the paucity of pupils is a weak point. The financial position is steadily improving.

Carysfort Endowment. The Schools sharing in this endowment are Sheeana, Ballinatone, Aughrim, Ballygreen, and Mucklagh National Schools, the two first named being under Protestant, and the remaining three under Roman Catholic management. A sum of £131 was divided equally between the two denominations. The reports of the National Board Inspectors may be described as good with regard to four of the Schools, and as fair with regard to the fifth. No change has taken place in the unsuitability of the Mucklagh premises.

The Leamy Endowment, Limerick. During the year we distributed between the Leamy Local Boards of Education a sum of £198 17s. 7d. On the day of inspection the roll of the High School under Protestant management, was 26, and that of the National School, under Roman Catholic management, was 479. Judging by the reports of the Lord Lieutenant's Inspector both Schools continue to be conducted satisfactorily.

The Viscount Limerick Endowment, Dundalk. Three Schools established their claim to share in this Endowment, namely:—St. Mary's College, Dundalk, for 21 pupils, the Educational Institution, Dundalk, for 17 pupils, and Christian Schools, Dundalk, for 1 pupil. We divided the sum of £52 amongst them in proportion to these numbers.

Banks Endowment, Eyrecourt. The Trustees mentioned in the Scheme again submitted a plan for the application of the endowment during the year 1916, and in accordance therewith a sum of £17 13s. 9d. was devoted to the teaching of Shirt-making, Knitting, etc., in a School at Eyrecourt under the management of Very Rev. Dean Aldridge. The report on the work done was satisfactory, except that the number of girls eligible for instruction in Needlework was very small. A revised plan for the application of the money during 1917 will be considered.

The Diocesan Schools and Banagher Royal School Endowments. In accordance with the plan adopted some years ago we paid the following sums on behalf of pupils attending Intermediate Schools in the districts named:—£12, Dioceses of Leighlin and Ossory; £28, Dioceses of Meath and Ardlagh; £28, Dioceses of Tuam, Kildare and Acobry; and £40, King's County. We also sanctioned the distribution of a sum of £90 as grants towards the better equipment of nine Secondary Schools in the King's County. One of these Schools (Chesterfield, Birr) has since been closed, the School equipment purchased with the grants disposed of, and the money thus realised credited to the general funds of the Banagher endowment.

Lattone School, Anne Hall Endowment. The portion of the income of this endowment applicable to Lattone School continues to be devoted to the reduction of the debt incurred in repairing and enlarging the Schoolhouses. These are now in good condition and are used not only for ordinary School purposes, but also for giving instruction in Needlework to the female pupils. The instruction in Woodwork for the boys has been temporarily discontinued owing to the teacher having joined the Army for the period of the War. This is a comparatively large school—35 boys and 37 girls—but the Inspector's report on the general efficiency is only fair.

Limerick Diocesan School Endowment. No expenditure was incurred during the year, and on December 31, 1916, the property in our possession, in addition to the School buildings, consisted of £84 12s. 6d. 3½ per cent. War Loan Stock, £42 1s. 0d. 4½ per cent. War Loan Stock, £310 12s. 6d. Railway Stock, and £61 7s. 0d. cash, the income for the year being £36 17s. 8d.

ESTATE MANAGEMENT.

On pp. 8-9 we give Summaries of our Rentals for the year 1914-15, together with our Agents' Accounts for the corresponding period.

Rentals. As compared with last year, the gross rental on the present occasion shows an increase of £9 10s. 3d., the figures being £1,845 2s. 5d. now, as against £1,835 12s. 2d. in 1915. Carysfort Rental remains unchanged. Tyrone Rental Proper is decreased by £6 5s. 3d. owing to (a) the sale of a holding, and (b) a judicial fixture; and the Tyrone Bog Rental, which varies from year to year, is increased by £15 15s. 6d.

Arrears. The general condition of the arrears compares favourably with that of the previous year, the total outstanding having decreased from £1,522 13s. 2d. to £1,502 16s. 11d. Taking the estates separately, Carysfort, at the date the account was rendered (May 1, 1916), showed that more than a year's rent had been

collected, and that the comparatively large arrears of the previous year, viz.:—£42 19s. 2d., had been reduced to £29 7s. 11d. Further, within a month from the rendering of the account, additional rent amounting to £12 15s. 9d. was collected. On the Tyrone Estate the net reduction is £6 5s. 0d., there being a decrease of £6 14s. 3d. on the Rental Proper, and an increase of 9s. 3d. on the Bog Rental. The improvement of £6 14s. 3d. on arrears of £1354 4s. 2d. is not very pronounced, but it is to be remembered that the substantial reduction of £114 0s. 7d. was effected in the previous year. We should mention, however, that although in 19 cases more than a year's rent was collected on the Rental Proper, there are 7 cases in which absolutely no rent was collected, notwithstanding the instructions frequently issued to the Agent that something at least should be annually paid in respect of each holding. Again, on the Bog Rental, out of 306 lettings, there are 50 cases in which no rent was paid. The Agent having been asked for an explanation of the 57 defaulters just referred to replied:—(1) Rental Proper (7 cases): That 5 had promised early payment, that 1 had paid two years' rent since the returns were furnished and that legal proceedings had been taken in the remaining case. (2) Bog Rental (50 cases): More bog was let than usual, and although a few pounds of arrears had been recovered, he was disappointed by some of the tenants. He had got a few pounds since and hoped to do better in the current year.

We have again expressed to the Agent our opposition to the growth of new arrears, and our hope that the Bog collection especially will show improvement in the next returns.

All which we have the honour to submit to Your Excellency as our Report in the premises.

Sealed with our Common Seal at a Meeting
held this 18th day of April, 1917, and
forwarded for submission to Your
Excellency on the same date.

Present when the Seal was affixed—

P. J. BYRNE, *Chairman*.

JAMES H. STRONGE

J. W. R. CAMPBELL

J. DENHAM OSBORNE

LOUIS C. PURSER

*PATRICK McKENNA

ARTHUR WEBB

Commissioners.

STANISLAUS MURPHY,

Secretary.

SEAL.

APPENDIX A.—

RECEIPTS AND

1 (a).—THE ULSTER ROYAL

DR.

CHARGE.

Name of Endowment.	Credit Balance, Dec. 31, 1915.	RECEIPTS.				Debit Balance, Dec. 31, 1916.	Total.
		Rents.	Dividends.	Other Payments.	Total Receipts.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Armagh Royal School ...	485 14 14	335 5 10	801 8 0	1 14 5	1,038 8 3	—	1,524 2 4
Cavan Royal School ...	127 7 14	—	288 12 0	27 13 7	316 5 7	—	443 12 3
Replise Royal School ...	116 2 1	69 0 0	162 12 1	9 3 2	240 15 4	—	355 17 5
Kearns Royal School ...	481 9 8	52 0 0	975 19 11	31 1 1	1,059 1 0	—	1,540 10 8
Dungannon Royal School ...	228 11 0	1,796 9 7	3 10 0	10 16 10	1,761 5 5	—	1,989 16 5
Total ...	1,439 4 1	2,082 15 5	2,232 11 0	80 9 2	4,296 15 7	—	5,834 19 8

1 (b).—THE ULSTER LOCAL

DR.

CHARGE.

Name of Local Board.	Credit Balance, Dec. 31, 1915.	RECEIPTS.				Debit Balance, Dec. 31, 1916.	Total.
		Distributive Share of Endowment.	Dividends, &c., on Building Funds, &c.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Armagh Protestant ...	—	430 0 0	—	—	430 0 0	115 19 0	545 19 0
Armagh Roman Catholic ...	—	430 0 0	—	—	430 0 0	—	430 0 0
Cavan Protestant ...	—	124 0 0	—	—	124 0 0	—	124 0 0
Cavan Roman Catholic ...	53 7 10	124 0 0	58 13 6	0 3 1	182 15 7	—	236 4 5
Dunagall Protestant ...	—	165 0 0	—	11 8 10	116 8 30	25 1 2	141 10 0
Dunagall Roman Catholic ...	—	165 0 0	—	—	165 0 0	—	165 0 0
Fermanagh Protestant ...	—	697 10 0	—	1 0 0	698 10 0	17 15 0	676 5 0
Fermanagh Roman Catholic ...	28 4 3	657 10 0	48 15 4	2 16 11	769 2 3	—	737 6 6
Tyrone Protestant ...	—	700 0 0	—	—	700 0 0	—	700 0 0
Tyrone Roman Catholic ...	—	700 0 0	—	—	700 0 0	—	700 0 0
Total ...	81 12 1	4,051 0 0	107 8 10	15 8 10	4,173 17 8	158 6 2	4,435 15 11

ACCOUNTS.

EXPENDITURE, 1916.

SCHOOL ENDOWMENTS.

DISCHARGE.							CR.	
Debit Balance, Dec. 31, 1915.	EXPENDITURE.					Credit Balance, Dec. 31, 1916.	Total.	Name of Endowment.
	On Estate Management, &c.			Amount Distributed between Local Boards.	Total EXPENDI- TURE.			
	Rents, Taxes, &c.	Agency Charges, and other Payments.	Refined Masters' Awards.					
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
—	70 10 1	32 17 6	95 0 0	880 0 0	1,628 7 7	465 15 9	3,526 2 4	Annagh Royal School.
—	—	5 3 2	66 15 4	246 0 0	319 15 4	123 16 2	443 13 8	Cherry Royal School.
—	22 17 1	13 3 0	—	226 0 0	248 0 1	110 17 4	358 17 5	Raphoe Royal School.
—	7 2 0	33 2 1	72 0 0	1,335 0 0	1,417 4 1	123 6 7	1,540 10 8	Enniskillen Royal School.
—	138 6 6	232 9 1	22 0 0	1,415 0 0	1,819 15 7	170 0 10	1,989 16 2	Dungannon Royal School.
—	228 15 8	306 14 10	265 13 4	4,051 0 0	4,832 3 19	982 15 10	3,854 18 5	Total.

BOARDS OF EDUCATION.

Debit Balance, Dec. 31, 1915.	CREDITS.				Credit Balance, December 31, 1916.	Total.	Name of Local Board.
	Rent, &c., due by Local Boards.	Income of Building Funds, &c., paid.	Net Amount of Share of Endowment.	Total Credits.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
115 10 0	231 0 0	—	196 0 0	430 0 0	—	545 10 0	Annagh Protestant.
—	—	—	420 0 0	430 0 0	—	430 0 0	Annagh Roman Catholic.
—	—	—	124 0 0	124 0 0	—	124 0 0	Cavan Protestant.
—	—	82 14 7	124 0 0	306 14 7	29 9 10	336 4 5	Cavan Roman Catholic.
25 1 2	63 0 0	—	24 8 10	114 8 10	—	143 10 6	Downpatrick Protestant.
—	—	—	106 0 0	166 0 0	—	166 0 0	Downpatrick Roman Catholic.
17 13 0	28 5 0	—	620 5 0	688 10 0	—	676 5 0	Fermagh Protestant.
—	—	32 18 4	607 10 0	719 8 4	26 18 2	735 6 4	Fermagh Roman Catholic.
—	—	—	700 0 0	700 0 0	—	700 0 0	Tyrone Protestant.
—	—	—	700 0 0	700 0 0	—	700 0 0	Tyrone Roman Catholic.
148 6 2	332 5 0	133 12 11	3,741 3 10	4,399 1 9	36 8 0	4,435 15 11	Total.

APPENDIX A.—

RECEIPTS AND

2.—OTHER ROYAL SCHOOLS AND PRIVATE ENDOWMENTS

DR.

CHARGE.

NAME OF ENDOWMENT.	RECEIPTS.					Debit Balance, Dec. 31, 1915	Total
	Credit Balance, Dec. 31, 1915	Rents.	Dividends	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts		
	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
Banagher Royal School	28 17 4½	—	130 6 10	0 8 3	130 15 3	—	158 12 4½
Carysfort Royal School	60 2 9	137 3 9	36 0 8	3 16 11	177 1 4	—	237 4 1
Athlone Private School	3 1 8	—	3 13 10	—	3 13 10	—	6 15 6
Banks Endowment, Eyrestown	10 17 9	4 12 4	14 1 6	0 7 0	19 0 10	—	29 18 7
Leamy Endowment, Limerick	78 4 8	—	180 10 8	18 11 10	296 2 6	—	296 7 2
Leamy Protestant Board of Education	13 14 7	—	21 18 5	2 2 5	24 0 10	—	37 15 1
Preston Endowment (General)	—	4 12 8	703 3 10	3 2 3	710 18 11	—	710 18 11
Preston School, Navan	79 7 104	—	90 17 3	1 9 5	92 8 8	—	171 16 6
Preston, Queen's County, Endowment.	4 0 8	—	91 16 1	8 15 8	100 11 9	—	104 12 3
Preston Scholarship	29 9 7	—	19 1 4	2 2 1	21 5 6	—	50 11 0
Vicount Limerick Endowment, Dordak	38 18 6	46 3 0	5 19 11	0 14 2	52 8 1	—	100 6 7
Meath and Ardagh Diocesan School Fund.	16 0 6	—	23 18 3	1 12 10	28 11 1	—	44 11 7
Leighlin and Ousey Diocesan School Fund.	6 15 3	—	11 14 3	1 3 7	12 17 10	—	19 13 1
Limerick Diocesan School Fund	24 9 4	20 0 9	15 8 11	1 0 7	36 18 6	—	61 7 14
Town, &c., Diocesan School Fund	18 10 7	—	28 3 4	2 16 10	41 2 3	—	49 12 5
TOTALS	436 10 10	212 11 9	1,387 8 1	49 13 2	1,649 13 6	—	2,086 3 10

3.—SUMMARY RENTAL FOR YEAR TO SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER, 1915.

RENTALS, 1915.

NAME OF RENTOR.	Arrears, 1914	Rent, 1915.	Total	Collected, 1915.	Arrears, 1915.
	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
Tyrone	1,354 4 2	1,088 8 8	2,442 12 4	1,995 2 5	1,347 9 11
Lyrone Bog	125 9 10	192 0 0	267 9 10	131 10 9	125 19 1
Carysfort	42 19 2	124 14 3	167 13 5	118 5 6	29 7 11
TOTALS	1,522 13 2	1,384 2 5	2,907 15 7	1,964 18 8	1,502 16 11

ACCOUNTS.

EXPENDITURE—(continued).

AND THE DIOCESAN SCHOOL FUNDS.

DISCHARGE.

CR.

Debit Balances, Dec. 31, 1915.	EXPENDITURE.				Credit Balances, Dec. 31, 1916.	Total	NAME OF EXPENDITURE
	On Estate, &c.		Educational.	Total Ex- penditure			
	Reals, &c.	Other Ex- penditure					
£ s d	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d	£ s. d.	£ s. d	£ s. d	
—	2 7 10	9 2 8	118 0 0	129 11 6	49 0 10	169 12 4	Banagher Royal School
—	5 4 5	35 3 10	133 0 0	171 8 3	65 15 10	237 4 1	Caryfort Royal School.
—	—	—	4 18 7	4 18 7	1 16 11	6 15 6	Athlone Private School
—	4 18 1	6 0 10	17 13 6	22 12 8	7 5 11	29 18 7	Banks Endowment, Eyre Court
—	69 0 0	0 9 1	175 9 1	235 18 2	50 9 0	286 7 2	Leamy Endowment, Limerick.
—	—	1 10 0	23 8 6	24 18 6	12 14 11	37 15 5	Leamy Protestant Board of Education
—	22 2 0	1 4 7	637 13 7	710 18 11	—	710 18 11	Preston Endowment (General).
—	—	—	125 2 1	125 2 1	46 12 5	171 14 6	Preston School, Nenagh
—	—	2 18 0	92 1 1	94 19 1	9 13 4	104 12 5	Preston, Queen's County, Endow- ment
—	—	0 0 10	—	0 0 10	30 12 2	30 13 0	Preston Scholarship
—	—	0 2 1	32 0 0	32 2 1	33 4 0	346 6 7	Vincent Limerick Endowment, Dundalk.
—	—	0 1 3	90 0 0	35 1 3	18 10 4	44 11 7	Meath and Arlough Diocesan School Fund
—	—	0 0 5	12 0 0	12 0 5	7 12 8	19 13 1	Leighlin and Ousey Diocesan School Fund
—	—	—	—	—	61 7 10	61 7 10	Limerick Diocesan School Fund.
—	—	0 1 3	28 0 0	28 1 3	23 11 0	49 12 9	Tulla, &c., Diocesan School Fund
—	124 13 1	41 15 10	1,453 4 8	1,499 13 7	456 10 3	2,086 3 90	TOTALS

4.—SUMMARY OF AGENTS' ACCOUNTS, MAY, 1915, TO MAY, 1916.

NAME OF ESTATE	Balance, 1915.	Receipts, 1915-16.	Total	Outgoings, 1915-16.	Ledged, 1915-16.	Balance, 1916.
	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.
Tyone	94 17 3	1,736 13 2	1,821 10 5	282 0 4	1,400 0 0	139 3 9
Caryfort	Nil	144 5 6	144 5 6	44 7 3	99 18 3	Nil
TOTAL	94 17 3	1,850 18 8	1,965 15 11	326 13 11	1,499 18 3	139 3 9

THE COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

APPENDIX B.

INSPECTION, 1915-1916.

REPORT

With regard to the INSPECTION for the YEAR 1915-1916 of the SCHOOLS selected by the Local Boards of Education to share in the

ULSTER ROYAL SCHOOL ENDOWMENTS

As Inspector appointed by His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant for the school year 1915-1916, I made my inspection of these Schools in September, 1916. The number of such schools on the present occasion is eleven—that is one less than last year—the Ladies' Collegiate School, Enniskillen, previously selected by the Fermanagh Protestant Board, having ceased to exist.

The subjoined Table shows the accommodation of the eleven Schools and the numbers on their Rolls respectively:—

NAME OF SCHOOL.	* No. of Pupils which the School can accommodate			No. of Pupils on Roll, 1915-16					
				Boys.			Day Pupils		
	Boys.	Day Pupils	Total	Males	Females	Males	Females	Total	
Royal School, Armagh	100	100	200	38	—	30	—	68	
St. Patrick's College, Armagh	60	16	76	22	—	12	—	34	
Royal School, Cavan	40	40	80	11	—	32	10	53	
St. Patrick's College, Cavan	90	50	140	82	—	23	—	105	
Royal School, Raphoe	40	100	140	12	—	8	8	28	
St. Eunan's Seminary, Letterkenny	80	20	100	58	—	14	—	72	
Royal School, Enniskillen	100	50	150	30	—	16	—	60	
St. Macarten's Seminary, Monaghan	100	20	120	68	—	—	—	68	
St. Michael's College, Enniskillen	—	50	50	—	—	36	—	36	
Royal School, Dungannon	60	140	200	41	11	27	35	114	
St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon	—	130	130	—	—	25	45	70	
Totals	670	760	1,436	382	11	323	98	714	

The success of the Schools, as measured by the results obtained in the recent Intermediate Examinations, is set forth in the following Table:—

NAME OF SCHOOL	No. of Pupils on Intermediate School Roll	Number presented for Intermediate Examinations		Number who passed		Percentage of Pupils to Intermediate School Roll	Percentage of Pupils to number presented for examination
		Males	Females	Males	Females		
Royal School, Armagh	38	35	—	19	—	50	54.2
St. Patrick's College, Armagh	39	27	—	20	—	68.9	74
Royal School, Cavan	29	17	8	10	3	44.8	52
St. Patrick's College, Cavan	73	60	—	33	—	45.2	35
Royal School, Raphoe	18	11	3	6	2	44.4	57.1
St. Eunan's Seminary, Letterkenny	58	56	—	41	—	70.6	73.2
Royal School, Enniskillen	30	18	—	7	—	33	38.8
St. Macarten's Seminary, Monaghan	62	62	—	42	—	67.7	67.7
St. Michael's College, Enniskillen	22	22	—	11	—	50.0	50.0
Royal School, Dungannon	63	40	10	26	7	32.3	66.0
St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon	43	15	27	12	8	46.5	47.6
General Result	455	363	48	227	20	54.2	60.0

* These numbers are, of course, only approximate.

School Rolls.—The total number of pupils on the rolls for the year just closed is 714, as compared with 686 in the previous year. This represents a gain of 28, and is all the more satisfactory in view of the fact that the returns for 1914-15 showed a gain of 39. An increase of 67 during the two years 1913-16 is a favourable and indeed remarkable contrast to the constantly diminishing roll of the four previous years which reduced the number of pupils from 785 in 1909-10 to 647 in 1913-14. During 1915-16, boards have increased by 3, and day pupils by 28; while if we distinguish between the sexes, boys are more numerous by 21, and girls by 7.

The most important variations in individual school rolls are increases in Royal School, Cavan (27), St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon (15), and Royal School, Enniskillen (12); and decreases in Royal School, Dungannon (13) and St. Patrick's College, Armagh (11).

The number on the *Intermediate Rolls*, that is those available for the Intermediate Examinations, was 456 as against 461 last year, when the total roll was smaller. This would indicate that the pupils generally are entering at an earlier age, which in some of the Schools at least is to be earnestly desired. Of the 455 possible candidates, 411 were presented for examination, that is 90 per cent. This percentage is not only higher than that of last year, when 84 per cent. of the possible candidates were examined, it is also one of the highest in my experience as Inspector of these Schools. Of course, one of the results of an exhaustive number being submitted to examination will be a reduced percentage of passes, but it is urged that from an educational point of view, the stimulus which preparing for the public ordeal provides is of more importance than the fluctuating reputation of the School.

Educational Efficiency.—Tested by the results of the recent Intermediate Examinations, the Schools, taken as a whole, have done fairly well. The successful candidates number 247 out of 411 presented for examination, that is the percentage of passes is 60. This does not compare favourably with the percentage of 69 last year, but attention is called to what has been said in the preceding paragraph as to the more exhaustive number presented, and further, it should be stated that two of the Schools were much handicapped towards the close of the year—one by an outbreak of Scarletina, and the other by the serious illness of the Headmaster. The general results for the country as a whole are represented by a percentage of 57·6 this year as compared with 62 in 1915. Accordingly the special schools with which we are dealing still maintain a higher percentage of passes, but on the present occasion their superiority in this respect is represented by a percentage of 2·4 as compared with one of 7 last year. Taking the sexes separately in our particular schools, the boys have done much better than the girls, the percentage of passes being 62 and 41 respectively. On the other hand, in the general results for the whole of Ireland the sexes are practically equal, the boys' percentage of passes being 57·8, and the girls 57·5.

Of the eleven schools inspected, five can boast improved results, two have just maintained their position, and four have suffered a serious reverse, their number of passes being down by over 30 per cent. In two cases there was marked weakness in English—the more marked because this subject had been strong in those Schools in the previous year—and in two cases languages generally in the junior grade were responsible for the reverse.

A close analysis of the results obtained by the various schools goes to show that, speaking generally, French was particularly good throughout, and that English—almost the most successful subject last year—and Mathematics were responsible for the majority of the failures.

Buildings, Equipment, etc.—The buildings, taken as a whole, are now in good condition and the same may be said of the equipment, if we except some desks and blackboards which have reached the limit of their service. Considerable sums have been spent on Armagh, Cavan and Enniskillen Royal Schools. Dungannon and Raphoe need but little attention at present, and the schools under the Roman Catholic Boards, being comparatively modern buildings, are easily kept in fair repair.

In connection with the premises the following points were noted:—

Enniskillen Royal School—Sanatorium and bathroom ceiling need attention.

St. Macartan's, Monaghan—Flushing of outdoor W.C.'s is defective.

Raphoe Royal School—The eave-gutters should be cleaned.

Dungannon Royal School—The woodwork of back windows is defective.

Health, etc.—In the early Spring two of the schools suffered from an epidemic of Influenza, and in the case of three of the schools, Measles, Mumps and Scarletina made their appearance. The last named was a rather serious visitation; it occurred in the Summer term, and in addition to the anxiety caused to the school authorities, it injuriously affected the Intermediate results. Drill is still given in the majority of the schools, but owing to the difficulty experienced in obtaining competent instructors—natural under existing circumstances—some of the authorities have been compelled temporarily to drop this important subject. In two of the schools discipline is somewhat bad.

Free Places.—All the schools provided free education for at least two pupils, although in one case it does not appear that that fact was advertised as required by Section 59 of the Scheme. In one school there was no applicant, and in three there was no competition, the number of applicants being either less than, or only equal to, the number of places offered. The proportion of candidates to places offered was highest in the cases of St. Patrick's, Cavan, and St. Macartan's, Monaghan, and in the former the most successful candidate scored 99 per cent.

Local Boards.—The various Boards have discharged efficiently their duties under the Scheme, and their records are carefully kept. I should like, however, to see the accounts written up to date. The improvement in the attendance of lay members, noted during the last two years, still continues. In the case of one local Board the financial position calls for attention.

Schedule I—Qualified Schools.—I am satisfied that the eleven schools selected by the Local Boards have fulfilled all the necessary conditions, and I beg to report the compliance of each of these schools with the requirements of the Scheme in respect of the school year ended August 1st, 1916.

The matters which call for attention, and to which I have alluded above, will be made the subject of further reference in my detailed report to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant.

STANISLAUS MURPHY,

Inspector

October 5, 1916.

APPENDIX C.

COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

I.

CONSTITUTION AND ATTENDANCES, 1916.

COMMISSIONERS.	DATE OF MEETING.				
	Jan. 19.	April 12.	July 26.	Oct. 12.	TOTAL.
Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne ...	1	—	—	1	2
Rev. J. W. B. Campbell, M.A. ...	1	—	1	—	2
Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea ...	—	—	—	1	1
W. A. Goligher, Esq., LL.D., F.R.C.D., M.A. ...	1	1	1	—	3
Right Hon. Lord Justice Molony ...	—	—	—	1	1
Rev. J. L. Morrow, M.A. ...	1	1	—	1	3
W. J. O'Reilly, Esq., D.L., B.M. ...	—	—	—	1	1
Rev. J. Denham Osborne, M.A., D.D. ...	1	1	1	1	4
Louis Claude Purser, Esq., LL.D., S.F.E.C.D. ...	1	1	1	1	4
Right Hon. W. J. M. Starkie, M.A., LL.D. ...	1	—	—	—	1
Very Rev. Dean Byrne, F.F., V.G., Vice-Chairman ...	1	1	1	1	4
Very Rev. Canon Coyne, F.F., ...	1	—	1	1	3
His Honor Judge Walker Craig, M.A., K.C. ...	—	—	—	—	0
Very Rev. Dean McGinley, D.D. ...	1	1	1	1	4
Most Rev. Dr. McKenna, Bishop of Clogher ...	1	—	1	1	3
Rev. W. B. W. Roberts, B.D., S.F.E.C.D. ...	—	—	—	—	0
Sir James H. Strangé, Bart., D.L., Chairman ...	1	1	1	1	4
His Honor Judge Andrew Todd, LL.D., K.C. ...	—	—	—	—	0
Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin ...	—	—	—	—	0
Rev. Canon Webb, M.A. ...	1	1	1	1	4

II.

STANDING COMMITTEE, 1916.

Meetings summoned—16.

Meetings held—15.

	Attendances.		Attendances.
Sir James Strangé ...	7	Dr. Osborne ...	11
Dean Byrne ...	5	Dr. Purser ...	13
Judge Craig ...	1	Mr. Roberts ...	2
Dr. Donnelly ...	5	Dr. Starkie ...	0
Dean McGinley ...	10	Judge Todd ...	7
Mr. O'Reilly ...	2		

No. 9465

DUBLIN CASTLE.

20th April, 1917

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, forwarding, for submission to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, the Annual Report of the Commissioners of Education in Ireland for the year 1916

I am,

SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

E. O'FARRELL

The Secretary,

The Commissioners of Education in Ireland,
14 and 15 Castle Street,
Dublin.